

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE STATEMENT ON OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S WORLDCOM CHARGES

"Regarding the charges announced today in the State of Oklahoma, this Office has not been contacted for evidence or access to witnesses in our active investigation into WorldCom and its accounting fraud. In the name of cooperation and coordination, we are disappointed that we were not told that charges were imminent, as we have enjoyed a cooperative relationship with the Attorneys General of other states. Competing interests can impede and delay the administration of justice. We are hopeful Oklahoma's action will not interfere with the prosecution of the five individuals already charged, four of whom have pled guilty and are awaiting sentencing in the Southern District of New York, or with this Office's ongoing investigation into WorldCom."